REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for his careful search and thorough review of the drawings, specification, and claims of the present application, and for his allowance of claims 16 and 24. In the remarks that follow it is believed that all of the Examiner's concerns expressed in the Office Action mailed September 17, 2004, rejecting claims 1-15, 17-23, and 25-27 have been addressed, but if the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner should feel free to contact the undersigned attorney.

This Amendment and Response to Office Action is being filed with a petition for a one-month extension of time, along with a check for $60. Should any further fee be needed, please charge our Deposit Account No. 23-0920, and deem this paper to be the required petition.

Objections To The Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings as being illegible. Replacement Sheets are attached hereto, along with an Annotated Sheet Showing Changes. One spelling correction was introduced in the drawings, which is annotated. The numeric labels have been moved inside their respective boxes instead of being outside the boxes. No new matter has been introduced.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for lack of antecedent basis of "the email." The claim has been amended to claim "the communication" instead, antecedent basis for which can be found in claim 1 at line 4.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Rejection In View Of Ronen.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 6, 8, 12-14, 17, 19-22, and 27. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw his rejection in view of the remarks that follow.

Independent claims 1 and 12 claim a notice comprising "a request time, and a requesting IP address, and a communication."

The specification, at page 11, describes an account holder and user as follows:

The account holder **12** is a person or entity responsible for the Internet access account **14**, and can be responsible for payment, use, or the like. The account holder **12** can be the same as the user **18** of the account **14**. Alternatively, the account holder **12** can be a different person or entity. For example, a user **18** could also be one of the parent's children, but the parent would still be the account holder **12**. The user **18** can be an employee of a company, and the account holder **12** would the company, exercising its prerogatives as an account holder **12** through supervisory employees of the company.

Users **18**, whether the account holder **12** or someone or something else, use a client computer system **24** to access the ISP **16** and the Internet **22**.

Comparing the disclosure of Ronen to the situation mentioned in the specification (at page 20) of children or employees, the merchant ISP 115 of Ronen's disclosure communicates with user terminals 101 or users such as children or the employees, not the parent or the employer. Therefore, Ronen does not disclose account holders (the person or entity responsible for the Internet access account) as defined in the specification and intended in the claims, and is in fact agnostic to account holders. The "accounts" disclosed in Ronen are charge card accounts of the user, not Internet access accounts. Ronen discloses interactions between an ISP merchant 115 and a user's terminal 101 mediated by a billing platform 120. The person or entity responsible for the user's Internet access account is not mentioned at all as being the target of communication. Therefore, Ronen does not disclose at least the claimed elements of "identifying the account holder...," "sending the account holder..." but rather is directed to a "user" as defined both by Ronen's disclosure (e.g. Figs. 2-3 disclose a "user" repeatedly) and the present specification (see block quote above).

The preceding arguments that apply to independent claims 1 and 12 also apply to dependent claims 2-5 and 13-15.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 6, 17, and 25 in view of the disclosure of Ronen. Claims 6, 17, and 25 have been amended to claim "sending a notice to an account holder." For the same reasons that the account holder is important to claims 1 and 12, it is important to claims 6, 17 and 25. The arguments applicable to claims 6, 17, and 25 also render dependent claims 7-11, 18-19, and 26-27 patentable as having all of the limitations of the independent claims.

The Examiner further rejected claim 20 in view of the disclosure of Ronen. Claim 20 claims, in part, an "account holder communication subsystem for sending the account holder the communication." As discussed above, Ronen does not disclose an account holder, account

holder communication subsystem, or sending an account holder a communication. Accordingly, claim 20 is not anticipated by Ronen, and dependent claims 21-23 are patentable as including all of the limitations of claim 20.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Rejection Over Ronen In View Of Grassle.

The Examiner has rejected dependent claims 4, 11, 15, and 23 as being obvious over the disclosure of Ronen in view of Grassle. Grassle does not address Ronen's deficiency of allowing a server to contact an unknown internet account owner. Grassle discloses a system by which a parent may set up an account for his child to communicate with him -- the parent is not setting up a server that does not know the identity of the account holder in order to communicate with the unknown account holder. Accordingly, these dependent claims are patentable because of the account holder limitation.

Rejection Over Ronen In View Of McClain et al.

The Examiner has rejected dependent claims 7, 10, 18, and 26 as being obvious over the disclosure of Ronen in view of McClain. McClain does not address Ronen's deficiency of allowing a server to contact an unknown internet account owner. Accordingly, these dependent claims are patentable because of the account holder limitation.
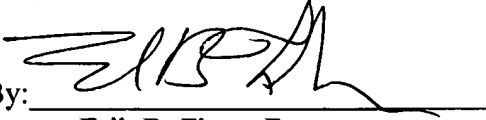
Rejection Over Ronen In View Of Forlenza et al.

The Examiner has rejected dependent claim 9 as being obvious over the disclosure of Ronen in view of Forlenza et al. Again, Forlenza does not address Ronen's deficiency of allowing a server to contact an unknown internet account owner. Accordingly, this dependent claims are patentable because of the account holder limitation.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

      Check No. 091323 in the amount of $60 is included with this submission. However,

should any further fee be needed, please charge our Deposit Account No. 23-0920, and deem this

paper to be the required petition.

Respectfully submitted,

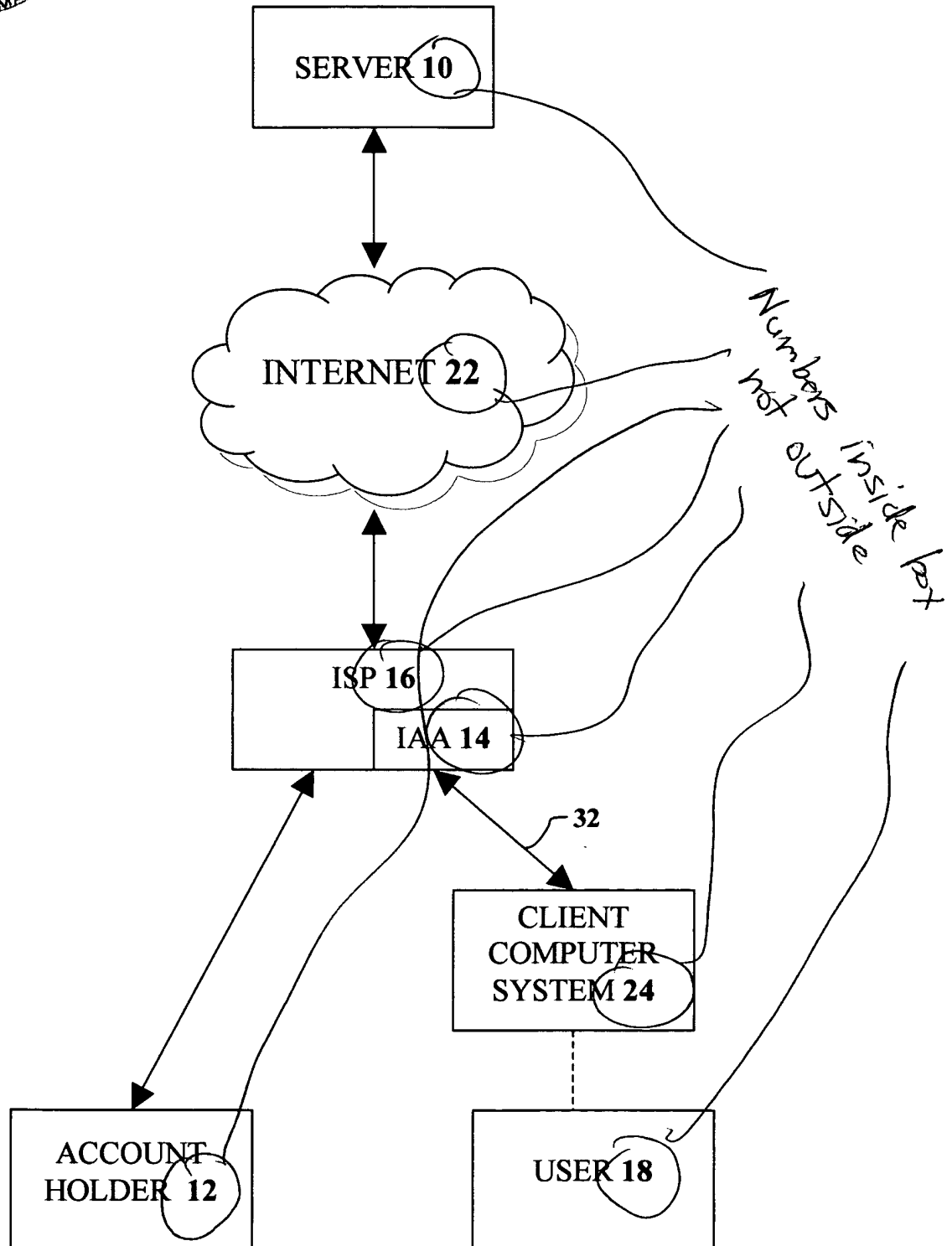Dated: December 31 2004   By:_____

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Telephone: 312/655-1500
Facsimile: 312/655-1501

Attachments: Replacement Sheet (Figs 1-4)
                Annotated Sheet Showing Changes (Figs 1-4)
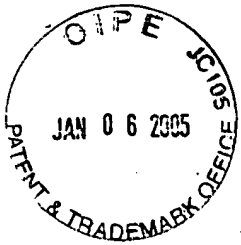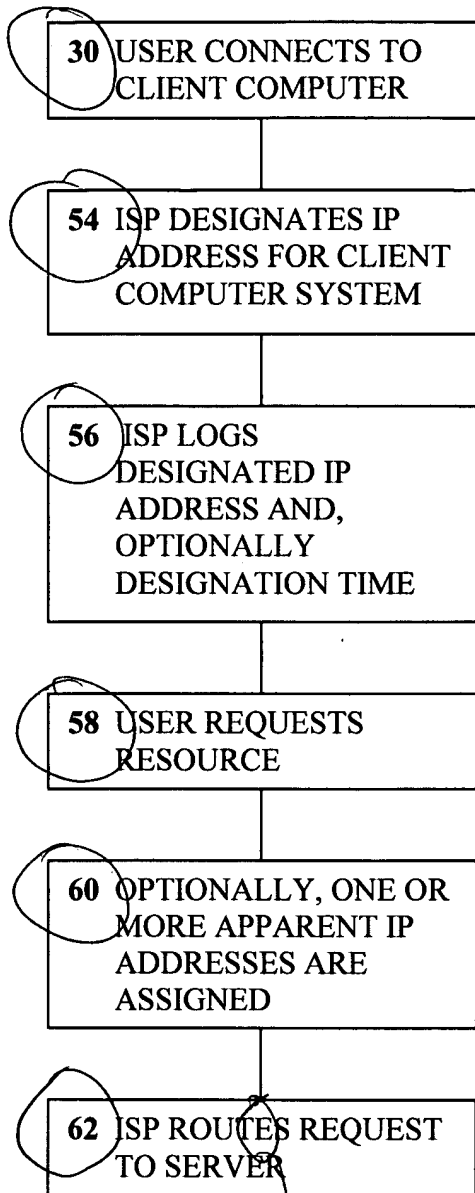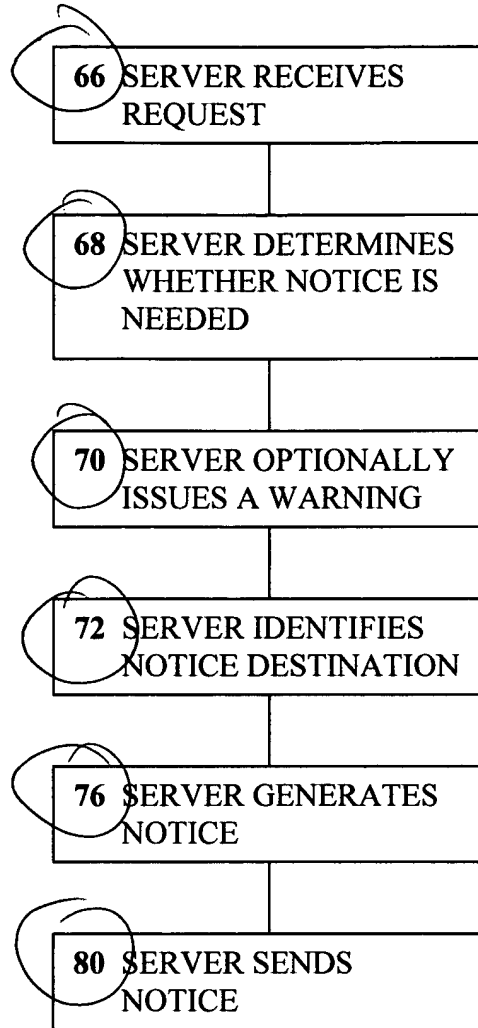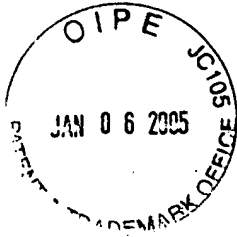   Check No. 091323

FIG. 1

FIG. 2

30 USER CONNECTS TO CLIENT COMPUTER

54 ISP DESIGNATES IP ADDRESS FOR CLIENT COMPUTER SYSTEM

56 ISP LOGS DESIGNATED IP ADDRESS AND, OPTIONALLY DESIGNATION TIME

58 USER REQUESTS RESOURCE

60 OPTIONALLY, ONE OR MORE APPARENT IP ADDRESSES ARE ASSIGNED

62 ISP ROUTES REQUEST TO SERVER

FIG. 3

66 SERVER RECEIVES REQUEST

68 SERVER DETERMINES WHETHER NOTICE IS NEEDED

70 SERVER OPTIONALLY ISSUES A WARNING

72 SERVER IDENTIFIES NOTICE DESTINATION

76 SERVER GENERATES NOTICE

80 SERVER SENDS NOTICE

Circled numbers now inside box instead of outside

spelling change (was "roxy")

FIG. 4

84 RECEIVE NOTICE

86 PROCESS NOTICE

88 IDENTIFY IP ADDRESS AND OPTIONALLY, TIME

90 IDENTIFY ACCOUNT HOLDER

92 CONTACT ACCOUNT HOLDER
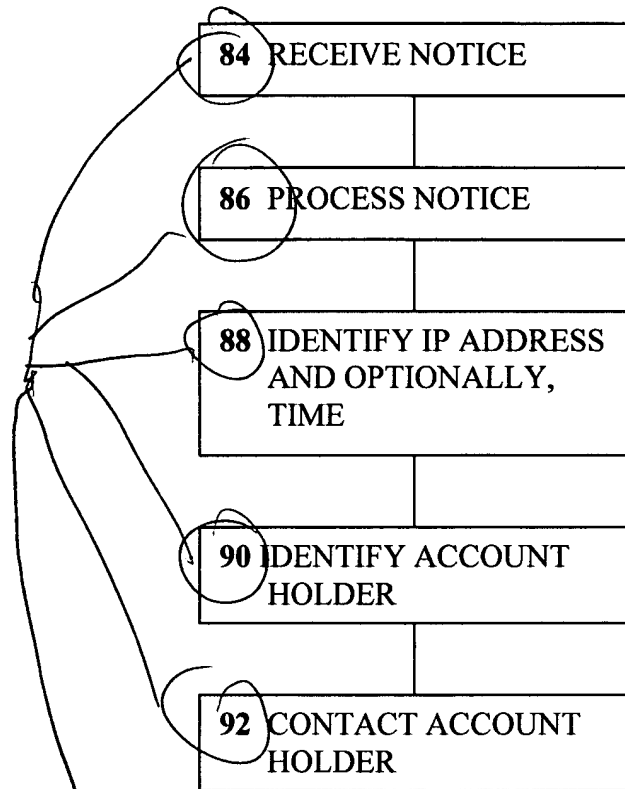
numbers inside box instead of outside